

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

AL
~~In traditional high pressure discharge lamps, mercury is employed as a buffer gas to increase the temperature of the arc tube, to promote the evaporation of light-emitting material, and to regulate arc tube pressure. However, mercury itself can be damaging to the environment.~~
The invention provides an arc tube with improved chromaticity and start-up characteristics that does not contain mercury, and provides a vehicle headlamp equipped with a metal halide lamp that contains no mercury in the arc tube. Among other improvements, the evaporation of low melting point metal halides is promoted and the start-up characteristics of the arc tube are improved.